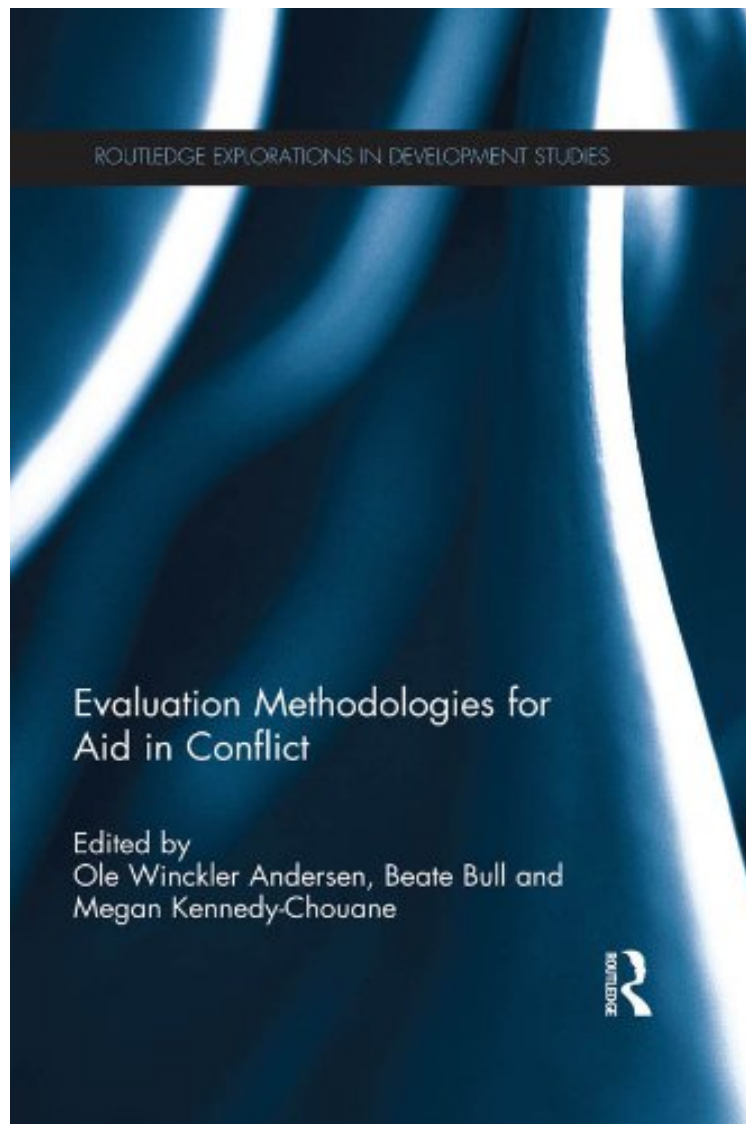


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chapter available on Google Scholar, by Goodhand, Klem and Soslash;rboslash;. (The Google preview quite stupidly excludes half of the contents pages, something Routledge might like to address). But like all of the Routledge academic books on development and conflict related areas, the price excludes everyone from a developing country from buying it (it's a third of an average month's salary where I am now). The very people who are the focus of the research, who could most benefit from it, and who should have access to the information, are excluded. This is unethical and unconscionable. It's another form of academic discrimination and shows the short-sightedness of the academy and its publishers.

Knowledge and rigorous evidence around the role of external development partners in situations of conflict and fragility is still lacking. There is little accountability for the billions in aid being spent in places like Afghanistan, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This book analyses evaluation theory and practice in order to help fill this knowledge gap and advocates a realistic and rigorous approach to evaluating international engagement. Through a series of case studies, this book highlights both the promise, and potential pitfalls, of taking a more evaluative approach to understanding aid in conflict regions. These illustrate the methodological and analytical approach taken by researchers working to understand the results and effectiveness of conflict prevention and peacebuilding support. While well-grounded in current theoretical and methodological debates, the book provides valuable practical information by examining how and why different choices were made in the context of each evaluation. The book shows what future steps may be envisaged to further strengthen evaluations of support for conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The analysis draws on a wealth of perspectives and voices to provide researchers and students in development studies and conflict and peace studies as well as development evaluators with a deep and broad understanding of evaluation methods and approaches.

"This is a well-structured sampler of relevant insights into the methodological issues involved in designing and carrying out evaluations of intervention in conflict situations. The discussion of the main theoretical challenges, complemented with the illustrations of a diverse setting of cases, allows the reader to comprehend the theoretical and practical complexities of undertaking these analyses. An additional strength of the book is the extensive and comprehensive bibliography included at the end of each chapter, useful for those who want to look more closely at the points raised." ndash; European Journal of Development Research, Ines Afonso Roque Ferreira, University of East Anglia, UK
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